

# QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

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A view of weather in Balochistan

## One Killed, One Injured in Chaman's Boghra Road Shooting

**Sardar Muhammad Khondak:** CHAMAN: A tragic shooting incident occurred near Boghra Road in Chaman city, where unknown gunmen riding a motorcycle opened fire, killing one person and injuring another. The attack took place on Sunday evening as the victims were reportedly on their way home.



The deceased and the injured were immediately shifted to a nearby hospital for identification and medical treatment. Law enforcement agencies, including the Levies, have launched an investigation into the incident to determine the motive behind the attack and apprehend the culprits.

Boghra Road, known for its bustling activity, has witnessed sporadic violence in recent months, raising concerns about public safety. Authorities have urged residents to report any suspicious activity to assist in maintaining law and order. Further updates on the investigation will be shared as more details emerge.

## ATC Grants Interim Bail to Bushra Bibi in Multiple Cases

**From Our Correspondent:** RAWALPINDI: The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) granted interim bail to Bushra Bibi, wife of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, in multiple cases on Saturday.



ATC Judge Amjad Ali Shah issued the orders, directing the police to submit their report during the next hearing. Bushra Bibi is facing 32 cases, and her legal team filed for bail to avoid immediate arrest.

The court emphasized the need for a thorough investigation and adjourned the case until further proceedings. This decision comes amid heightened legal scrutiny surrounding PTI leaders.

## Balochistan Weather Update: Kalat Records -5°C, Cold and Dry Conditions Persist

QUETTA: According to the Regional Meteorological Center Balochistan, the province is experiencing cold and dry weather, with partly cloudy conditions in most districts on Sunday. Central, northern, and northwestern hilly areas remain particularly cold. Similar weather is expected on Monday, with freezing temperatures in the hilly regions. During the last 24 hours, Kalat

recorded the lowest temperature at -5°C, highlighting the intense cold wave gripping the region. Other temperature readings across the province included: Quetta: -4.0°C (low) / 17.0°C (high) Samangli: 0.0°C / 15.0°C Sariah: -2.0°C / 16.0°C Dalbandin: -1.0°C / 15.0°C Zhob: -1.5°C / 16.0°C Lasbela: 1.0°C / 28.0°C

Khuzdar: 3.0°C / 19.5°C Coastal areas, including Ormara (9.5°C / 26.0°C), Jiwani (8.0°C / 24.5°C), Turbat (9.5°C / 26.5°C), and Gwadar (8.5°C / 26.0°C), recorded comparatively moderate temperatures. Residents are advised to take necessary precautions as cold and dry weather conditions are likely to persist, especially in the hilly regions.

## COAS Munir commends 'unwavering resilience, steadfastness' of armed forces in face of terrorism: ISPR



**NEWS DESK:** Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir on Sunday highlighted the "courage, resilience, and unyielding determination" of the armed forces and commended their "unwavering resilience and steadfastness in the face of terrorism," a statement issued by the military's media affairs wing said. Sixteen soldiers were martyred yesterday when terrorists attacked a checkpoint in Maken in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's South Waziristan district.

Separately, the ISPR on Wednesday said that security forces killed 11 terrorists in three separate operations carried out across KP. Earlier this month, a total of 43 terrorists — 18 in KP and 25 in Balochistan — were killed by security forces during extensive operations conducted in the provinces since Dec 9, causing

a "major setback" to the TTP and other terrorist groups operating in Balochistan. During his visit to Wana in South Waziristan today, the COAS received a comprehensive briefing on the prevailing security landscape and ongoing counter-terrorism operations, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said. In his interaction with the officers, COAS Munir "commended their unwavering resilience and steadfastness in the face of terrorism, reaffirming the nation's pride in their sacrifices", ISPR said.

He emphasized that the martyrs were the pride of the country, and "their sacrifices will never be forgotten", the press release said. The statement said that the security forces and the law enforcement agencies (LEAs) were steadfast in their determination to eliminate terrorism and extrem-

ism in all its forms, ensuring the restoration of lasting peace and stability across the country. COAS highlighted that the courage, resilience, and unyielding determination of armed forces were the "cornerstone of the nation's sovereignty", it said, adding that the army chief described the soldiers and LEAs as the true heroes of the nation, whose bravery and selfless dedication were an inspiration for the entire country.

The army chief reaffirmed the commitment to pursuing Firda Al Khwarji until they are eliminated along with their "facilitator, abettors and financier", who, COAS Munir said, would "pay the price for their nefarious activities against the state". After the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) broke a fragile ceasefire agreement with the government in 2022.

## Quetta Police Warn Against Aerial Firing on New Year's Eve

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Quetta, Mohammed Baloch, has appealed to citizens to refrain from aerial firing on New Year's Eve. In a video message, SSP Baloch highlighted the grave dangers of this practice, stating, "A single bullet can claim the life of another person."

Ali, a shopkeeper, commended the police for addressing this critical issue, stating, "This is a much-needed step to ensure the safety of our families." Similarly, Fatima Bibi, a teacher, said, "Such appeals help raise awareness and save lives. I appreciate the SSP's efforts."

Every year, several people sustain injuries in the provincial capital due to stray bullets caused by aerial firing. SSP Baloch urged the public to celebrate responsibly and prioritize safety during the festivities. Local residents have welcomed the SSP's timely message. Zafar

The Quetta police have also announced strict measures to curb aerial firing and ensure public safety during New Year celebrations. This initiative reflects the police's commitment to preventing avoidable tragedies and ensuring a safe environment for citizens.



## FO rubbishes 'unfounded' US missile threat claims

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad on Saturday vehemently rejected as "unfounded, devoid of rationality and sense of history" a claim by a senior official in President Joe Biden's administration that Pakistan's missile program was an "emerging threat" to the United States.

"The alleged threat perception from Pakistan's missile capabilities and delivery means, raised by the US official are unfounded," read a statement issued by the Foreign Office spokesperson, who also stressed that Pakistan does not harbour any "ill-intention" towards the United States. The statement came two days after US Deputy National Security Adviser Jon Finer said that the nuclear-armed Pakistan was developing long-range ballistic missile capabilities that eventually could allow it to strike targets well beyond South Asia, making it an "emerging threat" to the United States.

Speaking at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Finer said Pakistan has pursued "increasingly sophisticated missile technology, from long-range ballistic missile systems to equipment that would enable the testing of significantly larger rocket motors."

If those trends continue, Finer said, "Pakistan will have the capability to strike targets well beyond South Asia, including in the United States." The number of nuclear-armed states with missiles that can reach the US homeland "is very small and they tend to be adversarial," he continued, naming Russia, North Korea, and China.

"So, candidly, it's hard for us to see Pakistan's actions as anything other than an emerging threat to the United States," Finer said. His speech came a day after Washington announced a new round of sanctions related to Pakistan's ballistic missile development program, including for the first time against the state-run defence agency that oversees the program. "These allegations are unfounded, devoid of rationality and sense of history," said Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch. Since 1954, Pakistan and the US have enjoyed a positive and broad-ranging relationship, she added. "The recent spate of US allegations towards a major non-NATO ally would be unhelpful for the overall relationship, especially in the absence of any evidence in this regard. Pakistan has never had any ill-intention towards the US in any form or manner, and this fundamental reality has not changed," she added.

On the contrary, the spokesperson added that Pakistan had made monumental sacrifices for this relationship and continues to suffer hugely in sustaining the onslaught of the aftermath of US policies in the region. "It is regrettable that the US official alluded to bracketing Pakistan with those who are perceived to be in an adversarial relationship with the US," the spokesperson further said. "While ignoring and shielding the manifestations of a much more potent missile capability in our eastern neighbourhood, concerns on Pakistan's capabilities are being raised seemingly at the behest of others to further accentuate the already fragile strategic stability in the region."

"We wish to reiterate that Pakistan's strategic capabilities are meant to defend its sovereignty and preserve peace and stability in South Asia. Pakistan cannot abdicate its right to develop capabilities that commensurate with the need to maintain credible minimum deterrence as well as evolving and dynamic threats," the statement read. The Pakistan reaction also provided insight into the closed-door discussions on the issue. The statement noted that since 2012 when US officials started broaching the subject, different Pakistani governments, leadership and officials, have endeavoured from time to time, to positively address and remove the misplaced US concerns.

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**A Progressive Shift in Balochistan's Education System**  
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**Fall of Assad: uncertainty grips the Middle East**  
Continued to page 2

**9th May Tragedy: Sentences Announced for Politically Provoked Violence and Arson**  
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QUETTA VOICE

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A Progressive Shift in Balochistan's Education System

Editorial: The Education Department of Balochistan has taken a commendable step by replacing the terms "pass" and "fail" with "promote" and "retain"...

Broader Implications for Balochistan's Education Sector: This progressive approach must extend beyond Quetta to all districts of Balochistan...

Encouraging Female Education: This change holds particular significance for improving female education. In many regions of Balochistan, academic failures often discourage girls...

A Call to Action: Educators and parents have lauded this initiative as a step toward an inclusive and empathetic education system...

Balochistan's education system is evolving, and this bold step reflects a commitment to nurturing confident, motivated learners...

Fall of Assad: uncertainty grips the Middle East

By Gulab Ulmid: The swift collapse of Assad vulnerable. For years, Assad relied on Russian support...

The removal of Assad's regime has raised concerns about Syria's future. The possibility of sectarian violence and bloodshed, similar to what unfolded in Iraq after Saddam Hussein's fall...

The shifting dynamics in the region hint at a broader agenda. The current upheaval appears less about fostering democracy in Syria and more about advancing Israeli and Western strategic goals...

The downfall of the Assad regime has profound implications for the Middle East, particularly for Russia and Iran, whose regional influence has taken a severe blow...

Bold action to resolve SDGs in Pakistan

By Mohamed Yahya | Bilal Azhar Kiyani: their commitment to closing the SDG financing gap through scaling up official development assistance...

As 2025 approaches, Pakistan is racing itself for essential challenges. The unraveling of Assad's regime has bolstered its border defenses, wary of the instability spilling over...

and meeting the SDGs, dwarfs the country's revenue base. Without alternative sources of finance, we fear Agenda 2030 will not be accomplished. Pakistan's total debt and liabilities stood at an estimated \$308.2bn...

By Abbas Nasir: While the US policy has remained focused on enabling the creation of a Greater Israel via Gaza genocide...

The US Israel and their OIC member-allies in the region have caused setbacks to another OIC member Iran and the Axis of Resistance...

Any analyst in his right mind would pour scorn over this claim. Pakistan is nowhere in direct confrontation with the US anywhere in the world...

Pakistan's entire national security doctrine is based on the Indian threat which, given the conflicts in 1948, 1965, 1971 and the Kargil flare-up...

It remains made at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. US Deputy National Security Advisor Jon Finer said it was hard for the US to see Pakistan's actions as anything other than an emerging threat to America...

By Fariecha Aziz: ARBITRARY network shutdowns and slow internet speeds have been the defining feature of 2024...

And the only kind of access permissible is under government scrutiny, with red tape and additional costs. Pakistan's internet service providers are being forced to accept a new regulatory regime...

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Likely cause of US missile claim

this paper for details) on Pakistan's development of delivery systems?

My first thought was that when the US official referred to the potential capability to target the US it may have been a roundabout way of saying that perhaps Israel could come under threat...

That crippling reality is that the US is not going to do anything, even if its civil and military ruling elite may have wanted to come to the Palestinians' aid...

Therefore, one was forced to look elsewhere and one plausible reason came via the Friday Times' founder and former editor Najam Sethi...

Digital graveyard

fact that provisions in Peca criminalise unauthorised access and use of data.

The more pressing issue tied to the digital registration regime, this approach also presumes that only some people require access, not everyone.

Time and again, false equivalences are drawn to jurisdictions elsewhere with the justification: 'but it also happens elsewhere'...

Here, bills require approval, oversight, but they are not made public, lawmaking is reduced to a numbers game.

State Minister for IT, Shauqat Fatima, made many unsubstantiated claims in the order of the day.

Bold action to resolve SDGs in Pakistan

By Mohamed Yahya | Bilal Azhar Kiyani: their commitment to closing the SDG financing gap through scaling up official development assistance...

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CDA Chairman initiates discussions with ADB to collaborate on key projects

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman of Capital Development Authority (CDA) Muhammad Ali Randhawa on Friday initiated discussions with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to collaborate on key projects aimed at enhancing Islamabad's infrastructure and sustainability. The high-level meeting, attended by CDA members, NESPAK consultants, and senior officials, explored potential partnerships to address the city's pressing challenges. The meeting focused on critical issues, including Islamabad's water crisis, sustainable transport, and urban mobility initiatives. Randhawa underscored the need for ADB's support to tackle water supply-demand gaps, inequitable distribution, and wastage through theft and leakage. He highlighted the importance of the

newly established Islamabad Water Agency in securing international funding and devising short-, medium-, and long-term solutions to the water shortage. On sustainable transport, the CDA discussed plans for an intercity bus terminal and the introduction of bicycle tracks as part of the city's eco-friendly initiatives. The first pilot project will be on Margalla Road, linking the Diplomatic Enclave to F-8 and F-9 Park, with provisions for bike-sharing systems, seating areas, and pedestrian crossings. Chairmans Randhawa emphasised preserving green belts during construction and integrating electric buses into the city's public transport system. He also directed converting commercial buses into eco-friendly vehicles and establishing electric charging stations.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani along with Speaker National Assembly Sardar Asad Khattak and Speakers of provincial Assemblies addressing press conference after closing ceremony of 18th speakers conference at Parliament House.

US House approves bill to avert midnight shutdown, sends to Senate

WASHINGTON (INP): The Republican-controlled U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation that would avert a midnight government shutdown, defying President-elect Donald Trump's demand to also greenlight trillions of dollars in new debt. The Democratic-controlled Senate would need to pass the bill to ensure the government will fund beyond midnight (0500 GMT Saturday), when current funding expires. The White House said President Joe Biden intends to sign it into law if he does. The legislation would extend government funding until March 14, provide \$100 billion for disaster-hit states and \$10 billion for farmers. It would not raise the debt ceiling - a difficult task Trump has pushed Congress to do before he takes

office on Jan. 20. House Speaker Mike Johnson said Republicans would have more power to influence government spending next year, when they will have majorities in both chambers of Congress and Trump will be in the White House. "This was a necessary step to bridge the gap and put us into that moment where we can put our fingerprints on the final decisions on spending," he told reporters after the vote. He said Trump supported the package. A government shutdown would disrupt everything from law enforcement to national parks and suspend paychecks for millions of federal workers. A travel industry trade group warned that a shutdown could cost airlines, hotels and other companies \$1 billion per week and lead to widespread disruptions during the busy Christmas season. Authorities warned travelers could face long lines at airports. The package, which passed by a bipartisan vote of 366-34, resembled a bipartisan plan that was abandoned earlier this week after an online feud between Trump and his billionaire adviser Elon Musk, who said it contained too many untested provisions, such as a pay raise for lawmakers and a crackdown on pharmacy benefit managers. Republicans struck most of those elements from the bill - including a provision limiting investments in China which Democrats said would have conflicted with Musk's interests. "He clearly does not want to answer questions about how much he plans to expand his businesses in China and how many American technologies he plans to sell," Democratic Representative



RAHIMYAR KHAN: Chief Justice of Pakistan Justice Yahya Afridi at prison of remote district Rahimyar Khan.

Konstas handed Boxing Day Test call-up as changes loom for Australia

MELBOURNE (INP): Nathan McSweeney has been dropped from Australia's squad for the final two Tests against India with 19-year-old opening batter Sam Konstas earning his first call as the home side shake up the top order amid their struggles against Jasprit Bumrah. Pace bowler Jhye Richardson has also been recalled to a Test squad for the first time in three years to provide further cover following the injury to Josh Hazlewood. Josh Inglis, who has been the spare batter during the series to date, remains part of the squad and could be an option if the selectors want to get creative with indicators from chair of selectors

George Bailey that they are keen for a greater tempo from the top order. Allrounder Beau Webster is also retained in the 15-player group. But as a specialist opener there is now a strong chance that Konstas will debut in front of a crowd of more than 90,000 at the MCG. If he does play, it would be just his 20th first-class match, making him the fourth-youngest debutant for Australia in men's Tests, although he has been marked out as a future international player since his junior days. "First and foremost, [want to] acknowledge that it's a tough call for Nathan, particularly after three Tests," Bailey told reporters. "We are constantly getting new information as you guys are... It's clearly been a challenge at the top of the order for both teams. Think Sam's method, his style, is different to Nathan's, different again to Beau's and Josh's, as the other batting options within that team, and we think they provide the options of a different look and a different make-up for the XI come Boxing Day." Bailey delivered the news to both McSweeney and Konstas personally. "It was a really hard decision for Nathan and one that we spent a lot of time deliberating over," he said. "Particularly after a small sample size of three Tests... That's never a great phone call, is it? Nathan was disappointed and really the message to him was much the same as at the start of the series, that we just given the way the series has played out, we just want the option of throwing something different at India for this next Test." Konstas started the season with twin centuries against South Australia, becoming the youngest to do so in the Sheffield Shield since Ricky Ponting, which put himself firmly in Test discussions, and has

Gill needs to show his substance outside Asia to prove his worth

SYDNEY (INP): At every net session, it becomes clear why India believe in Shubman Gill. He plays shots that are supposed to be hard ever so easily. There was this push to a ball that was climbing up towards his rib cage at the Gabba. He swayed inside the line, just a subtle realigning of his torso, nothing more followed by a swivel of the back foot to direct the ball where he wanted it to go. The eye test measure of how good a batter is based on how comfortable they look in the middle. Are they moving into the ball, or are they stuck on it, or are they off stump,

and Gill took the bait. Since Gill announced himself almost four years ago, setting up India's win at the Gabba with 91 off 146 balls, his highest score outside Asia is 36. During this period, he has only 267 runs to show across 16 innings in Australia, England, South Africa and an average of 17.80. He has developed a habit of looking really, really good, and then just randomly getting out. Earlier this week, at the Gabba, he essentially muddled a wide ball from Mitchell Starc into a packed slip cordon for Mitchell Marsh to pull off a superb catch. India were 6 for 2, and the irony was that Gill had attended the pre-match press conference and highlighted how the batters' focus was in doing whatever it took to get big first-innings runs. Gill once spoke to the Grade Cricketer podcast, of how his technique has been up to international cricket, that even his coaches didn't really believe he needed to change much. He must have wowed them all with his attacking shots, the ones that are difficult to play but come so naturally to him, especially off the back foot. From that point, it can almost be taken for granted that the other stuff - the boring stuff like blocking the ball or leaving it - would also be in order.

Mitch Owen's maiden T20 century topples powerhouse Perth Scorchers

PERTH (INP): A break-out BBL century from Hobart Hurricanes opener Mitch Owen powered the home side to a commanding win over powerhouse Perth Scorchers. Just two days after being embarrassed by the Melbourne Renegades, when they posted the lowest score (74) in their history, Hurricanes downed the Scorchers by eight wickets with four balls to spare. Owen and West Indies star Shah Iqbal feasted on a star-studded bowling attack with a 101-run stand to set up their first win against Scorchers in Hobart since January 1, 2013. Scorchers took the game into the final over with Hurricanes still needing seven runs to win, but Owen secured his century with a boundary off Lance Morris to make a certainty of the result. In 14 previous T20 games, Owen had managed a total of just 89 runs at an average of 12.71, with a highest score of 28. But the 23-year-old delivered a coming-of-age innings, bringing up his ton from 63 balls. Owen's knock consisted of nine boundaries and five sixes, including one shot that went out of the stadium.

Scorchers left out veteran seamer Andrew Tye, but still had an impressive bowling attack of Jhye Richardson, Morris, Jason Behrendorf, Ashton Agar and Cooper Connolly. Hurricanes became the sixth team batting second in seven games during this BBL. To win, Opening bowler Riley Meredith was outstanding for Hurricanes, picking up 5 for 27, as well as being involved in a key run-out of Josh Inglis. Australian Test squad member Inglis was powering towards 50, but was caught in a mix-up between the wickets with captain Ashton Turner. Hurricanes were excellent in the field with Ben McDermott taking a fantastic catch behind the stumps to remove Finn Allen second ball and Billy Stanlake somehow clutching a swirling chance running back from short third to stop Connolly in his tracks. Captain Nathan Ellis and the experienced Chris Jordan were exceptional at the death as Scorchers managed just 27 off their last five overs.



HYDERABAD: VCLUMHS Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Din Ujjan giving degree and medal to students during 1st Annual Convocation of Bilawal Medical College LUMHS.

Israel army says troops shot Syrian protester in leg

JERUSALEM (INP): The Israeli military said its forces shot a protester during a demonstration against the army's activities in a village in southern Syria, injuring him in the leg. Since Islamist-led rebels toppled Syrian president Bashar al-Assad in December, Israel has carried out hundreds of air strikes on Syrian military facilities in the Golan Heights. "At the start of the demonstration, the Israeli military called on protesters to distance themselves from the troops," the report said. The village is just outside the southern point of the UN-patrolled zone. "After the troops identified a threat, they operated in accordance with standard operating procedures against the threat... The protester was shot in the leg," the military said. The London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights war monitor said the Israeli troops were stationed at a barracks in the village. "During a protest condemning the Israeli incursion, a young man was injured by Israeli forces' gunfire in the village of Maariya, in the Daraa region," the Observatory said. Israeli forces from Al-Jazera barracks "opened fire directly at the demonstrators," wounding the man in the leg, it said. A villager from Maariya told AFP that

Israeli soldiers had been entering his village and other nearby villages in recent days. "When the Israelis entered, they sowed fear and horror among the people, the children, the women," Ali al-Khalaf. "So much so that some people fled to other nearby villages. They (Israeli troops) entered the villages of Maariya, Aabdy and Jamlah," he added. On Tuesday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held a security briefing about a strategic Syrian mountain in the UN-patrolled zone.



QUETTA: Prize winner player of Low Kick Championship organized by Khilji Sport Academy in collaboration with BRSP receiving his prize from chief guest.

### Balochistan Medical Aspirants Request Postponement of BUMHS BS Test Due to SZABMU MDCAT

QUETTA: Medical aspirants in Balochistan are urging the Balochistan University of Medical and Health Sciences (BUMHS) to postpone its Bachelor of Science (BS) Allied Health Sciences and Associate Degree programs test, currently scheduled for December 29. The students have emphasized that they will be attending the Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (SZABMU) Medical and Dental Colleges Admission Test (MDCAT) reconduct on December 30, just one day after the BUMHS exam. Aspirants are requesting BUMHS to reschedule the BS test to allow them sufficient time to travel from Quetta to Islamabad for the SZABMU MDCAT. Given the long travel distance, they are concerned it is

Syed Muhammad Yaseen:



not feasible to attend both exams on consecutive days. "I would have to skip one test for the other as none can travel from Quetta to Islamabad during such short span", Mr Adeel Khan, an aspirant told the daily Quetta Voice. Balochistan medical aspirants are hopeful that BUMHS will consider their request, ensuring they can participate in both SZABMU MDCAT and the BUMHS BS test without facing any logistical challenges. The author is a MBBS Student and founder of the Students Nexus by SMV, an online educational and career counselling platform.



ISLAMABAD: Lord Qurban Hussain, a British Pakistani political leader of Kashmiri origin called on Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

### JI warns of nationwide protest over electricity prices

FAISALABAD (INP): Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer, Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman, has announced that if the government does not reduce electricity prices, his party will initiate a nationwide protest. Speaking to the media after addressing party members in Faisalabad, he urged the public to be prepared for the call to action. He emphasized that Jamaat-e-Islami has no choice but to take a stand for the people's rights if no relief is provided. During the meeting, Naeem-ur-Rehman mentioned that Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi had visited the Jamaat-e-Islami head-quarters in Mansoura to brief the leadership on the progress of the Independent Power Producers (IPPs) agreements. He reiterated that if the government fails to provide any relief to the masses, Jamaat-e-Islami would not hesitate to launch protest movement. Jamaat-e-Islami leaders, including Punjab Central Ameer Javed Kasuri and District Ameer Mehboob-uz-Rahman Butt, were also present during the gathering. Naeem-ur-Rehman further stressed that his party has formed public committees nationwide, with plans to launch a full-scale struggle for the rights of the people. However, he urged the government to act quickly and

reduce electricity tariffs before the situation escalates. He also criticized the government for its lack of sensitivity toward the public's hardships, citing a recent decision by the Punjab Assembly to increase the salaries of its members by 1,000 percent on the same day that a 25 percent increase in gas prices was announced. Naeem-ur-Rehman condemned the ruling elite for continuing to enrich itself while ordinary citizens are burdened with rising costs of living. He also pointed out that misleading statistics are being presented regarding the country's economic situation, and he called for taxes on landlords, relief for small farmers, and an end to the sugar mafia's exploitation of the sugarcane crop. On the issue of madrasa registration, Naeem-ur-Rehman expressed his party's support for the 2019 agreement signed by madrasa organizations and reiterated that Jamaat-e-Islami is in favor of registering madrasas according to this agreement. He also stressed that those wishing to register under the Madrasa Societies Act should not be obstructed. He stated that this issue should not be tied to the controversial 26th Amendment, which he claimed

### Khan's release will not be part of agenda in ongoing talks: Aqeel

JHELUM (INP): Prime Minister Advisor on Law and Justice, Barrister Aqeel Malik has emphasized that Imran Khan's release will not be part of the agenda in ongoing talks with the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). Malik stated that it would be impossible for someone to first call for civil disobedience and then expect relief following the events of May 9. He affirmed that the judicial system will follow its own course, and there will be no relaxation under the guise of negotiations. "The cases of May 9 will reach their logical conclusion," he said, stressing that any misunderstanding about a potential deal or amnesty was misplaced. Malik

further highlighted that negotiations can only proceed once the terms of reference (TOR) are clearly defined. Meanwhile, Bilal Azhar Kayani, Chairman of the National Parliamentary Task Force for Development Goals, expressed openness to talks with any political party, including PTI, on pressing national issues. Kayani stated that the government is always ready to engage in discussions aimed at eliminating terrorism and achieving economic stability. However, he made it clear that such talks will not lead to exemption from punishment for those involved in the May 9 incidents. "Whoever is involved in



KUWAIT: Mission Commander Pakistan Navy Flotilla Muhammad Umair exchanging view with Senior Kuwait Navy officials during Pakistan Navy Flotilla Port Al Shuwaiikh, Kuwait.



LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on Revenue related matters.

### 9th May Tragedy: Sentences Announced for Politically Provoked Violence and Arson

NEWS DESK: On 9 May 2023, the nation witnessed tragic incidents of politically provoked violence and arson at multiple places, marking a dark chapter in the history of Pakistan, the Military's media wing stated. Building on a sustained narrative of hate and lies, politically orchestrated attacks were carried out on the installations of the Armed Forces including desecration of the monuments of Shuhada, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said.



These blatant acts of violence not only shocked the nation but also underscored the necessity of checking this unacceptable attitude of religious terrorism to impose its own perverted will through violence and coercion. In light of the Supreme Court decision, Field General Court Martial has in the first phase promulgated the punishments for the following 25 accused; after examining all evidences, affording all legal rights to the accused and completing due process:-

1. Jan Muhammad Khan s/o Toor Khan, who was in 10 years of rigorous imprisonment, was involved in the Jinnah House incident.
2. Muhammad Imran Mehboob s/o Mehboob Ahmed, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
3. Raja Muhammad Ehsan s/o Raja Muhammad Maqsood, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in GHO attack incident.
4. Rehmat Ullah s/o Manjoor Khan, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Punjab Regimental Centre Mardan incident.
5. Anwar Khan s/o Muhammad Khan, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in PAF Base Mianwali incident.
6. Muhammad Afaq Khan s/o M Ishaq Khan, 9 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Bannu Cantt incident.
7. Daud Khan s/o Ameer Zaib, 7 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in ISI Office Faisalabad incident.
8. Faheem Haider s/o Farooq Haider, 6 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
9. Zahid Khan s/o Muhammad Khan, 4 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Multan Cantt Check Post incident.
10. Yasir Nawaz s/o Ameer Nawaz Khan, 2 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Punjab Regimental Centre Mardan incident.
11. Abdul Hadi s/o Abdul Qayyum, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
12. Ali Shan s/o Noor Muhammad, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
13. Daud Khan s/o Shad Khan, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
14. Umar Farooq s/o Muhammad Sabbir, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in GHO attack incident.
15. Babar Jamal s/o Muhammad Ajmal Khan, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in PAF Base Mianwali incident.
16. Muhammad Hashir Khan s/o Tahir Bashir, 6 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
17. Muhammad Ashiq Khan s/o Naseeb Khan, 4 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
18. Khuram Shahzad s/o Liaqat Ali, 3 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Multan Cantt Check Post incident.
19. Muhammad Bilawal s/o Manzoor Hussain, 2 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
20. Saad Alam s/o Maaz Ullah Khan, 2 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Punjab Regimental Centre Mardan incident.
21. Laceyq Ahmed s/o Manzoor Ahmed, 2 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in ISI Office Faisalabad incident.
22. Ali Iftikhar s/o Iftikhar Ahmed, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
23. Zia ur Rehman s/o Azam Muhammad, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Jinnah House incident.
24. Adnan Ahmed s/o Sher Muhammad, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Punjab Regimental Centre Mardan incident.
25. Shakir Ullah s/o Anwar Shah, 10 years rigorous imprisonment, involved in Punjab Regimental Centre Mardan incident.

Promulgation of the sentences of remaining accused is also being done and will be announced shortly as and when the due process is complete. This is an important milestone in dispensation of justice to the nation. It is also a stark reminder to all those who are exploited by the vested interests and fall prey to their political propaganda and intoxicating lies, to never take law in own hands ever in the future. Many accused are also being tried in various Anti Terrorist Courts and their cases are being pursued as per the law, however, justice would truly be fully served once the mastermind and planners of 9th May Tragedy are punished as per the Constitution and laws of the land. State of Pakistan will continue to vigorously pursue dispensation of justice to ensure establishment of inviolable writ of the State, so as to uproot this evil of violence driven disruptive and destructive politics based on hate, divisiveness and baseless propaganda. All convicts retain the right to appeal and other legal recourse, as guaranteed by the law and the Constitution.



PESHAWER: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi in a meeting with Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao, Chairman of the Qaumi Watan Party.

### BJP regime seizes property of another Kashmiri in Rajouri

ISLAMABAD (INP): BJP-installed administration in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), under the control of the Lieutenant Governor continuing its policy of displacing Kashmiris from their assets has seized the property of another individual in Rajouri district. According to Kashmir Media Service, Indian police have attached 10 marlas of land belonging to Zia-ur-Rehman, a resident of Samote Budhal in Rajouri.

The action was carried out under the draconian Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Police have labeled Zia-Ur-Rehman as a supporter of the ongoing Kashmiris' right to self-determination movement. Since the revocation of IIOJK's special status in August 2019, the Modi government has confiscated hundreds of properties belonging to Kashmiris, citing various pretexts. In another development, Indian forces launched a cordon and search operation in the Lolab area of Kupwara district. Meanwhile, All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) spokesman Advocate Abdul Rashid Minhas, in a statement issued in Srinagar, condemned the ongoing confiscation of Kashmiris' properties, calling it a colonial-era tactic used by the BJP to break the political will of Kashmiris.